



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 049400-5027

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Osamu KATO et al. ) Confirmation No.: 1776  
Application No.: 10/776,637 ) Group Art Unit: 3767  
Filed: February 12, 2004 ) Examiner: Deanna K. Hall  
For: HOLLOW TUBE BODY FOR MEDICAL )  
TOOL AND A CATHETER INTO WHICH )  
THE HOLLOW TUBE BODY IS )  
INCORPORATED )

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
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Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the above-identified Applicants cite the following patents, which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Pursuant to the rules pertaining to applications filed after June 30, 2003, a copy of the U.S. references is not enclosed. A copy of the references will be submitted upon request by the Examiner. In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of the foreign patents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are provided. A copy of the European Search Report dated July 1, 2005 is also enclosed. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

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While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention or otherwise material to the patentability of this invention as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

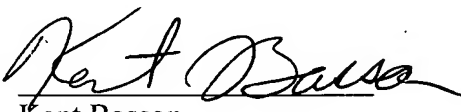
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b) exists.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) after the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of any of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. It is believed that a fee of \$180 is due with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. Please charge this fee and any other fee required in connection with this submission to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310 .

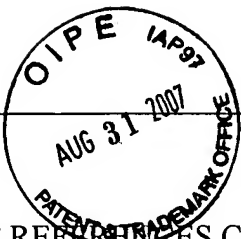
Respectfully submitted,

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## LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY DOCKET NO.

049400-5027

APPLICATION NO

10/776,637

APPLICANT

Osamu KATO et al.

FILING DATE

February 12, 2004

GROUP

3767

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A01	6,482,217	11/19/2002	Pintor et al.	606	159	
	A02	6,296,651	10/2/2001	Gray et al.	606	170	
	A03	5,007,896	4/16/199	Shiber	604	22	
	A04						
	A05						
	A06						
	A07						
	A08						
	A09						
	A10						
	A11						
	A12						
	A13						
	A14						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	B01	EP 1 243 283	9/25/2005	EPO (in English)				
	B02	WO 00/09195	2/24/2000	WIPO (in English)				
	B03							
	B04							
	B05							

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	C01	
	C02	
	C03	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.